

**Regular Minutes of the Houston Cy-Fair Lions Club
Tuesday July 22, 2014 at 7PM at the Lions Den**

Members: 11

Guests: 2

President Paul opened the meeting promptly with “Good Morning.” Lion Bud led the pledges to the flags. President Paul requested Lion Don lead us in singing “Happy Birthday”, in honor of Lion Don’s birthday this week. After again almost forgetting to bless our food and meeting, President Paul requested prayer to be given by Lion Amanda.

Lion Becca introduced Della Barbato with Federal International Recycling and Waste Solutions. Ms. Barbato has a Masters Degree in plant biology and is currently education and account manager with Federal International. She is recently back from a teaching trip to Cambodia. First, she briefed us on the need for recycling and reuse. There are over 3,000 landfills in the United States. We learned that cardboard will decompose in about 3 months. Tin cans take 50-100 years. Aluminum cans will decompose in approximately 200-500 years. Plastic will NEVER decompose. Recycling one aluminum can will provide enough energy to run a TV for three hours. Our national recycling rate is only 34%, including states in which recycling is mandatory. Houston’s recycling rate is only 25%. Humans produce 100 million tons of trash each year throughout the world. But 80% of all trash is recyclable. Earth911.com is a website to locate recycling centers for various materials within your area.

Next, Ms. Barbato discussed the Community Based Eco Tourism of Chi Phat, Cambodia. Many tourists visit this area for biking, hiking, canoeing, and other outdoor activities. Typically, Cambodians do not pick up trash; just throw it on the ground. The local people of this village realized that a cleaner community would attract more tourists. The local people are the workers for the tourist industry, providing lodging, meals, guides, etc, for those who travel to the area. Ms. Barbato met a man from this village who became an intern to her recycling company in Houston. He urged her to teach the people of Chi Phat the importance of recycling. First, they trained the teachers, then students through grades 6-9. High School students then became Green Ambassadors, encouraging continued recycling. Students made recycling bins from fish net. They then collected trash along the street, and sorted it appropriately. Students were very proud of their accomplishments and the improved street free from litter. The last week of her visit to Cambodia she got a behind the scenes tour of Wildlife Alliance for Animal Rescue, which rehabilitates injured animals and releases them back into the wild. She also did local mountain biking and canoeing on the river. More detailed information and pictures of her trip can be found at: <http://www.earth-voice.com/cambodia-blog>.

Next, Lion Becca introduced Robert Garbarino who discussed the Magic Show fundraiser which we discussed at our last meeting. He has been promoting and producing shows since the late 1970’s. Currently, there are 4 programs, some of which are more suited to some communities. The Humble and Pasadena Lions Clubs have been hosting the Magic Show for several years. He explained that besides being a fund raiser for the Club, providing an introductory letter about our Club can possibly lead to new members. The magician he uses is from Austin, who designs and builds his own performances. Mr. Garbarino’s company will collect all funds which will be paid to our treasurer, and they are not paid until the day of the show. He guarantees us \$2000 after all our expenses

are paid for the first show. If we secure the venue, we can save more money. We could do two shows at a smaller venue, or one large one like at the Berry Center, which he has used many years ago. The shows typically last about 80-90 minutes and are family friendly. Tickets are \$11 per person. We will be given tickets which we can sell and keep all monies received. He has a facility and personnel in Pasadena who make the sales calls. He sends out letters to all contacts informing them about our Lions Club. We thanked him for his presentation, and will need to seriously consider this project.

Secretary's minutes were emailed. A correction of the date of the District training meeting held at this facility was made to the electronic and paper records. Motion to accept as corrected, was made by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Milly, and passed.

Lion Chuck gave the Treasurer's report. He also reviewed the 2014-2015 proposed Lions Club Budget. Motion to accept the proposed budget was made by Lion Chuck, seconded by Lion Clayton, and passed.

The baseball tournament held this past weekend was successful, despite lack of coverage for the concession stand. Lion Chuck worked 3 shifts, one morning shift by himself. It is not sure if Lion Littlejohn is contacting all members and requesting coverage for the concession stand, or they are not willing to help. The tournament scheduled for this coming weekend has been moved to the Queenston fields.

The broken dishwasher is to be repaired this week.

The Soaring Eagle Scout Picnic will be held at our facility this weekend. All Lions are invited.

The District Alert Chairperson has given Lion Chuck packets to be given to President Paul and Lion Stedman of info on this program.

President Paul was asked by Lion Amanda prior to her leaving tonight, to discuss the possibility of a Club Social this weekend. It was thought there was too little time to plan. Lion Milly reported that she is so busy she does not have time for another monthly activity, but would welcome a larger function yearly. It was suggested to hold the Social maybe quarterly. Lion Becca suggested since we only have one meeting in Dec, that we use Tues. Dec. 16 to divide food for the Cheer baskets, and have a cookie swap and snacks after our work is complete. She is still working on a Veteran's Day program, with local businesses providing food for veterans.

Tail Twister Lion Don collected \$6.25. Meeting adjourned at 9PM after a hearty Lions roar.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Martin, Secretary